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OC-M-76-537
18 August 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant for Information, DDA

25X1A

FROM : [redacted]
Director of Communications

SUBJECT : Automated Decisionmaking Systems

REFERENCE : DD/A 76-3907, dtd 4 August 1976
Same Subject

Forwarded in accordance with reference is the OC "Report of Automated Decisionmaking Applications."

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Att. As Stated

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REPORT OF AUTOMATED DECISIONMAKING APPLICATIONS

OFFICE: Office of Communicatio DATE: 18 August 1976

Automated Decisionmaking Applications

Definition

"Automated decisionmaking applications are computer programs that initiate action (through output) on the basis of programmable decisionmaking criteria established by management and incorporated in computer instructions. The distinguishing characteristic of these applications as compared to other computer application programs, is that many of the computer's actions take place without manual review and evaluation." (From GAO report.)

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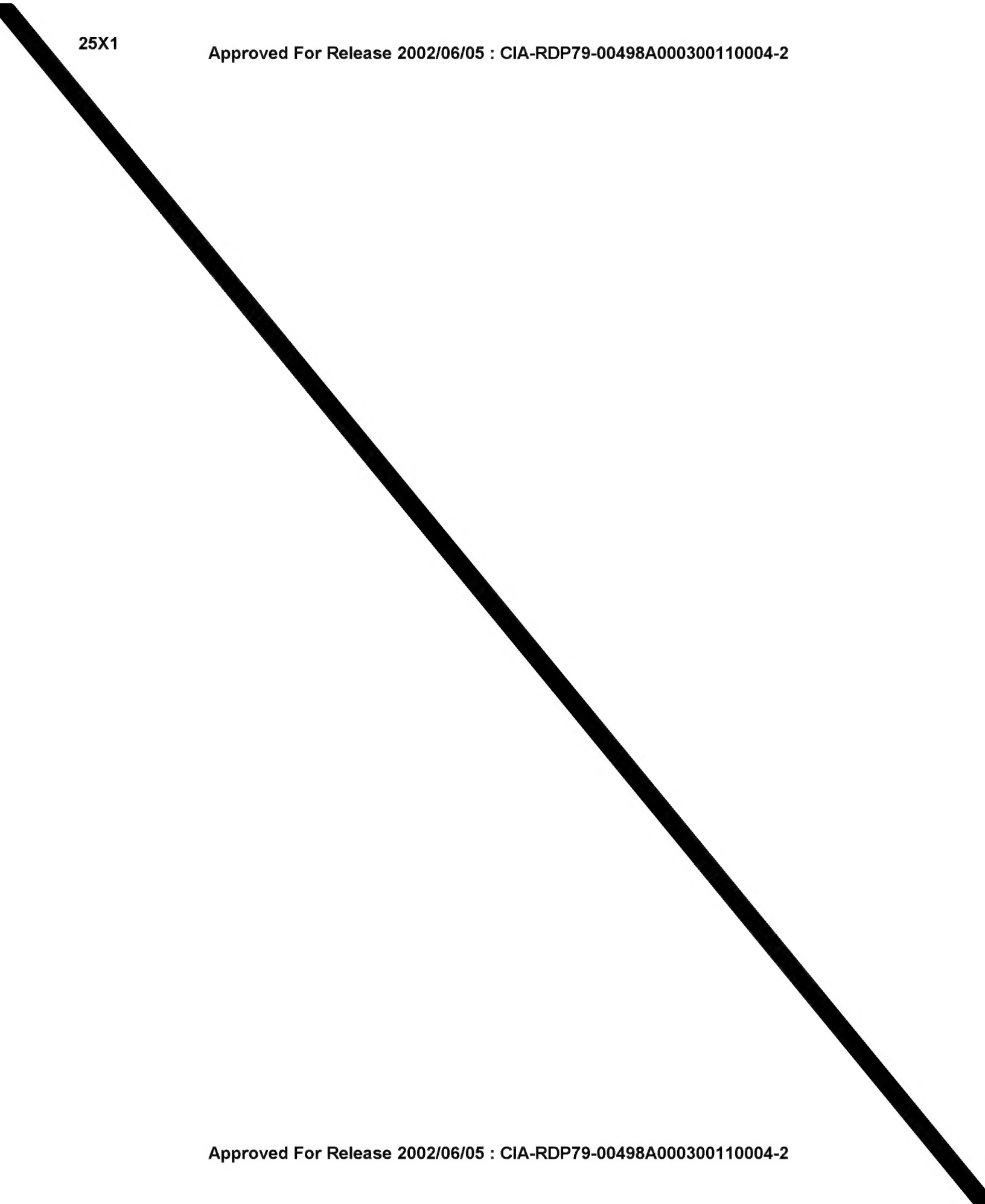

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2. Based on your review of all administrative procedures, criteria, computer programs, etc. pertaining to each of the automated decisionmaking applications described in 1, indicate your assessment of the possibility and probability of improper actions, the extent to which improper actions have or may be occurring, and the monetary value of these improper actions.

The probability of improper actions is extremely low or non-existent for both CDAS and AUTEMP. Both systems have been in operation since 1970 and the only improper actions experienced have resulted from human error. The monetary value of any improper actions would be minimal, however, the operational and security damage which could result from an improper action could be severe.

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3. Identify and describe actions which you are implementing to minimize or correct improper actions described in 2.

Since there have been no improper actions as a result of the automatic decisions, no action is being taken to minimize or correct improper actions. Actions are being taken to modernize and expand the capabilities of both CDAS and AUTEMP.

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